

Subject: Dafs weekend | CB Radio Changes | Winner Roof Top Tent

From: 4WD NSW and ACT Inc <office@4wdnow.com>

Date: 1/10/2025 2:39 PM

To: <delegate.tam4wdclub@gmail.com>



Presidents Report

Hi everyone, first I would like to send out a big thank you to every one that attended the Adventure Show, it was certainly the biggest show we have had and all the volunteers make it one of the best in the country, the exhibitors and patrons really love the atmosphere that the members create. The way the members represent the Association and their Clubs is outstanding.

Great Koala Park, well the announcement for this came from nowhere and has caught everyone of guard, there is so much to unpack from this announcement. We spoke with many different people at the Adventure show, the outcome of those talks is that 4WD NSW and ACT will be hosting a closed forum of interested parties later in the month at Coffs Harbour, this will include politicians, timber industry, four wheel drive related industries, influencers and local clubs. The main points we are trying to get clear are exactly what is driving the government to change its mind on creating such a large park, how it will effect us and our supporting industries and how will this effect future parks. We will update the members as soon as we can so please keep an eye out for any info from the Association,

cheers.

Craig Thomas

President

Looking for somewhere to go on the October long weekend.

Tamworth 4WD Club is inviting you to join them.





All welcomed. Even the public to entice new membership!

Destination: Gloucester, Maxwell, The Cells, Spokes Lookout, Wauchope, Tamworth.

(Weather permitting and roads being opened)

Trip Leader: Colin Middleton.

Note: This is a Swag/Tent three day/two night trip.

Trip grade: easy to medium. (1 to 2) . Grade2 if it starts to rain, tracks may become "a bit greasy".

Overview: Saturday 4th October: Meet at Tamworth, East Macca's at 8 for 8:30am leave. Head towards Gloucester for setup camp at Maxwell flat. Head to The Cells, time and weather permitting.

Sunday 5th Oct: Head to Spokes Lookout, set up camp somewhere in this area.

Monday 6th Oct. Head to Wauchope then home to Tamworth.

For all enquiries and RSVP's, ring Colin on mobile 0407 617 442.

Driver Awareness Facilitator's Weekend

November 22nd and 23rd | Hunter Region |

This will be a camping weekend.

Sunday will be a beach day on Stockton Beach.

This is advanced notice so details are still to come.

Safety label now built-in to plate

Safety label number plates are now available for electric (EV), hybrid (EV), hydrogen (H) vehicles starting 1 September 2025. These plates include a built-in fuel identifier, offering a more durable alternative to adhesive safety labels. NSW is the first state in Australia to introduce a safety label plate, helping emergency services quickly identify an alternative fuel vehicle in a crash or fire. Unlike adhesive labels, the safety label is pressed into the plate like the numbers and letters, making it more durable.



Example of Classic plates with built-in fuel identifier.

There is no requirement to change existing safety labels to a safety label plate. Both options meet compliance requirements under [Schedule 2 of the Road Transport \(Vehicle Registration\) Regulation 2017](#). If a label is damaged, missing or faded, it

must be replaced or the plates changed to a safety label plate. Failing to display a safety label may result in a defect notice and/or a fine.

Vehicle owners can order or remake General Issue and Regulatory safety label plates at a [Service NSW centre](#) for a fee.

Looking for something to do the October Long Weekend?



CLASSIC LANDCRUISER
Swap meet & 4wd show

Classic Landcruisers Club of NSW Inc

4WD TV

Pre-1989 Landcruisers
20s, 40s, 55s, & 60s

20
NSW
25

WESTON WORKS

LIGHTFOX

ticketebo

LITHGOW SHOWGROUND
OCTOBER LONGWEEKEND
4TH-5TH 2025

Gates open 9:30am Saturday
General entry \$15 ♦ 12 and under free ♦ show n shine \$25 ♦ swap meet \$20 ♦ camping \$15

GET YOUR TICKETS AT
www.classiclandcruisers.com.au

Classic Landcruisers club of NSW
Invites enthusiasts, families and adventurers alike to the
first ever Classic Landcruiser show in
New South Wales
This is the event you don't want to miss out on!

FOOD TRUCKS ♦ SHOW N SHINE ♦ LIVE MUSIC,
SWAP MEET ♦ CAMPING

show n shine entry is for pre-1989 classic and historic landcruisers only

The Classic Landcruiser Club is a brand new member of 4WD NSW and ACT Inc. If you are in the area make sure you drop in and say Hello!



FOUR WHEEL DRIVE NSW & ACT INC
2025 Committee Election

Annual General Meeting (AGM)

15 November 2025

As per the Association Constitution –

- Nominations have closed for the Committee Election at the AGM
- Valid nominations have been received for all 9 positions
- Only one nomination was received for 4 positions
- There were 2 nominations received for Vice President Clubs
- There were 6 nominations received for the four Executive positions
- No nominations will be called from the floor at the meeting
- The ballot for election will be conducted in the way the committee agreed at their meeting held on 10 October 2022

There will be 3 options for voting –

- A. Clubs with Delegates present at the Quarterly meeting will vote using a ballot paper
- B. Clubs where Delegates attend the meeting only via the Zoom connection will vote by sending a private chat message, with their Club name, to the meeting Chair
- C. Clubs can lodge a Proxy vote with Secretary before start of AGM – sample form on Association website

More detailed instructions will be given at the start of the election.

The nominees for the following four positions are standing unopposed –

President:	Lee Dunstan – Black Diamond Recreational 4WD Club Inc
Vice President Lands:	John Barnsley – Blue Mountains Four Wheel Drive Club Inc
Secretary:	Rollanda Rosenstraus – ERA Recreational Club Inc
Treasurer:	Tony Ellery – Blue Mountains Four Wheel Drive Club Inc

The nominees for the following position are –

Vice President Clubs:	John Hurcum – Jackaroo Four Wheel Drive Club of Australia Inc
	Robert Matysiak – Sturt 4WD Inc

The nominees for the following 4 positions are –

Executive:	Anthony Timmins – Bungaribee 4WD Club Inc
	Brian Bird – Camping with Families (CWF) 4WD Club Inc
	Craig Thomas – ERA Recreational Club Inc
	Don Lindsay – Macarthur District 4WD Club Inc

John Hurcum – Jackaroo Four Wheel Drive Club of Australia Inc

Robert Matysiak – Sturt 4WD Inc

NB: nominee elected as Vice President Clubs will be withdrawn as a nominee for Executive

David Wellham

Election Chair & Returning Officer

Proxy Form [HERE](#)

Constitution [HERE](#)

Key Changes for Australian CB Radio Operators - effective on October 1, 2025.

- **FM Legalization on HF:** Operators can now use FM on the 27 MHz (HF) band, a major change that aligns Australia with other countries and provides more flexibility.
- **Removal of Channel-Specific Calls:** Operators no longer need to start contacts on designated channels, allowing for more spontaneous and group-based communications on channels they prefer.
- **Internet Linking Allowed:** New rules permit the linking of CB radios to internet-based systems.
- **Clarification of Emergency Communications:** The definition of emergency communications now explicitly includes activities like emergency coordination and training.
- **Shift in Enforcement for On-Air Conduct:** The ACMA will no longer be responsible for taking action against issues like harassment or threats on the air, with enforcement now falling to police and other authorities.
- **New Class Licence:** The new Radiocommunications (Citizen Band Radio Stations) Class Licence 2025 replaces the previous 2015 version, becoming effective on October 1, 2025.
- **No Call Sign Required:** While not mandatory, operators are still recommended to identify themselves during communication.

Why the Changes?

The changes were made to reflect advancements in technology and evolving user practices since 2015. The ACMA's consultation process received numerous submissions, leading to a modernized class licence.



And the winner is.....

Daniel from the Illawarra Suzuki 4WD Club.

Dan was a volunteer for the Association and worked his 2 hours. Thank you Dan for your contribution to the Show and we hope that you enjoy many years of camping luxury from your new Roof Top Tent kindly donated by James Baroud.



Volunteers that signed up for 2 hours for the Association were in the draw along with any new members that signed up on the day.

One entry per day, so volunteer for 3 days = 3 entries.

New member sign ups at the show totalled 33

Regards

Brian Bird

0421 601 128

Adventure Show Chair

Pushback on rapid national park expansion in far west



Councils, graziers and communities raise concerns over acquisition of farming properties for national parks. Photo TWH

Bourke Shire Council has reaffirmed its commitment to regional pastoral communities as the NSW Government continues to expand the state's national parks estate in the far west.

The Council's concerns focus on both the loss of productive grazing land and the financial implications for local government. In the last 20 years, the Bourke region has lost nearly half a million acres of agricultural land to make way for a suite of National Parks, Nature Reserves and State Conservation Areas - now totalling approximately 860,000 acres managed by the NSW Government. Since November 2024 alone, the NSW Government has acquired an additional 34,773 hectares of land for national parks in the far west, including "Bellenbar" near Fords Bridge.

Mayor Lachlan Ford said the acquisitions have placed a tangible burden on ratepayers, as properties added to the national parks network are exempt from paying rates.

"These government-owned lands don't contribute to council revenue," Cr Ford said. "Over the past few years, tens of thousands of hectares have been declared non-rateable. For 2024–25 alone, Council had to write off more than \$13,000 in rates due to Conservation Agreements and non-rateable lands. That's funding that would otherwise support roads, services, and community projects across our Shire."

Read more local news in the printed edition of The Western Herald.

Gardens of Stone SCA update – September 2025
Walking track updates

Gardens of Stone Pagoda Walk - Work is complete on the first section of the Gardens of Stone Pagoda Walk following an 18-month works program to transform an eroded informal trail into a world-class walking track. Starting from Broad Swamp, the new 17.5 kilometre [Broad Swamp to Birds Rock walking track](#) is a Grade 3 track which showcases remote creeks, gorges and clifftop views, finishing at Birds Rock carpark. The new track marks a major transformation for the area, improving access to stunning scenery while enhancing protection of sensitive

landscapes. Construction on the next stage of the Gardens of Stone Pagoda Walk has commenced, with work to continue over the next 18-24 months. Once completed, the 30-kilometre two-night, three-day walk will connect Broad Swamp to Glow Worm Tunnel.

Broad Swamp - [The Broad Swamp Loop walk](#) is now open following a major remediation program to repair damaged landscapes and enhance protection of the largest swamp in the SCA. The 6-kilometre family friendly track highlights the rich biodiversity of Broad Swamp and tells the unique story of the area with visitor interpretation of local flora and fauna.

Lost City walking track - [The Lost City walking track](#) has been positively received by visitors and the local community, with more than 1,500 visitors recorded at the site each month. The newly established walking track and lookout opened in December 2024, providing access to iconic pagoda landscapes and heritage sites which were previously difficult to access. A significant milestone has now been achieved with the completion of the Lost City car park and access road, improving safety and access for park visitors. The new car park provides 38 spaces, including accessible and long-vehicle parking, visitor signage, seating, and toilets. These upgrades replace temporary facilities which were in place to support the first 10 months of operation of the Lost City walking track. Further improvements, including a new accessible lookout and an alternative entry point via Lost City North Road are planned over the coming months.

Visitor area updates

Forest Campground upcoming works - The Forest Campground precinct is currently closed for improvement works to support construction of the visitor precinct. Commencing with upgrades to Camp Road, improvements will be followed by the construction of Forest Campground, featuring 50 bookable sites, drive-in camping suitable for small caravans, a designated group camping area, and a picnic area. The closure is expected to remain in place for approximately 12 months. During this time, there will be no access to Western Boundary Road, Red Hill Road, or the former Afforestation Camp.



Forest Campground concept plan

Bungleboori picnic area - Over the past year, the Bungleboori picnic area has undergone significant improvements. Invasive pine trees have been removed and repurposed as mulch and logs to help close damaged tracks. The area has been replanted with native species propagated by the Lithgow Community Nursery,

enhancing biodiversity outcomes and supporting the local ecosystem. Planning for further upgrades is well underway, with future amenities to include accessible toilets, ample parking, shelters, and visitor signage. Construction will commence in late 2025.

Glow Worm Tunnel - Visitation to the Glow Worm Tunnel Precinct has boomed following the completion of upgrades in mid 2024, with visitor numbers totalling more than 40,000 over the past 12 months. Major track repairs, tunnel improvements and visitor interpretations have created a safer and more enjoyable experience for visitors, while also protecting the delicate glow worm habitat. In late May 2025, a significant rockfall occurred on the Glow Worm Tunnel walking track beyond the tunnel. NPWS is currently working with geotechnical engineers to develop a remediation plan, with the goal of safely reopening the track in the future. In the meantime, the track is temporarily closed from the tunnel exit to the intersection known as "4-ways" (Old Coach Road).

Road updates

Old Bells Line of Road sealing - Clarence Sands Quarry has submitted a Review of Environmental Factors (REF) for the proposed sealing of a 5 km section of Old Bells Line of Road within Gardens of Stone SCA to improve road safety, reduce erosion, dust and sediment runoff. The REF is currently under review.

Trail closures

NPWS has now finalised an [access strategy for Gardens of Stone SCA](#) to provide a framework for safe and sustainable vehicle access in accordance with the reserve's plan of management and Vehicle Access Policy. As noted in the strategy, the extensive network of unauthorised trails which were developed in the state forest has had damaging impacts on the natural and cultural values of the area – resulting in soil compaction, erosion, sedimentation in creeks and vegetation removal. NPWS is in the process of finalising the implementation plan for vehicle track rationalisation and rehabilitation. High priority areas have been identified, and works are currently underway to close and rehabilitate eroded trails.

JUST IN CASE YOU MISSED IT.....



Red Cross First Aid Course

I have had a few inquiries about another Sydney Course for members.



We need 20 participants to run the course.

The course will be in the Penrith area, possible in May or June.

If you or your club are interested please email
office@4wdnow.com

Need a ZOOM meeting?

Do you need a zoom meeting for your club?

You are welcome to use the Association account.

Please email Maggie with date, start time and duration.

office@4wdnow.com

4WD NSW & ACT and its Driver Training Unit
proudly supported by



This newsletter is written using information provided by relevant parties.

If I write something that mentions "me or I" and there is no signature after it then it is a message from me.

If you would like something to be added on behalf of your club please email office@4wdnow.com.

Anything can be included as long as it's club based and for the benefit of clubs.

The newsletter is monthly (about the first of each month) but we can do an extra "special" if there is something that is important that we missed.

- Maggie Thomas.

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